



**Sterne Kessler  
Goldstein Fox**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbalà  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millionig  
Lawrence B. Bugalsky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Molly A. McCall  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaston  
Kimberly N. Reddick

Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Bruce E. Cha'ker  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhuier  
Rae Lynn Prensaman  
Jane Shershenovich  
Lawrence J. Carroll  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein  
Rodney G. Maze  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller  
Jon E. Wright  
LuAnne M. Yuricek

John J. Figueroa  
Ann E. Summerfield  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Helene C. Carlson  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Mary B. Tung  
Katrina Y. Pei  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa  
Teresa A. Cotella

Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford  
Eric D. Hayes

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith

\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

August 27, 2003

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8560

**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
RESMOND@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment**

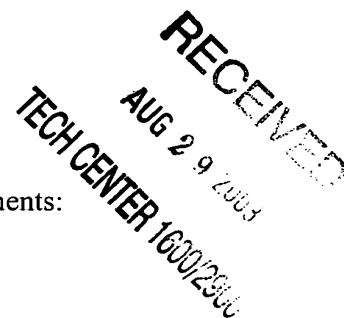
Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/869,159; Filed: August 15, 2001  
For: **Assay for Identifying Compounds Which Affect Stability of mRNA**  
Inventors: KASTELIC *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1556.0290000/RWE/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 and 1.121;
2. Original Power of Attorney for Assignee with Delegation, as filed on August 15, 2001;
3. Original Certificate under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) from Assignee with a copy of the Assignment attached, as filed on August 15, 2001; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.



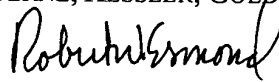
Commissioner for Patents  
August 27, 2003  
Page 2

We have enclosed the Power of Attorney for Assignee with Delegation, and a Certificate under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) from Assignee with a copy of the Assignment attached, which were filed on August 15, 2001. These documents were returned to us in error with the Notice of Recordation of Assignment Document. Please place them in the file for this application.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert W. Esmond  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 32,893

RWE/JKM/acr  
Enclosures

SKGF\_DC1:172532.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

KASTELIC *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/869,159

Filed: August 15, 2001

For: **Assay for Identifying Compounds  
Which Affect Stability of mRNA**

Confirmation No.: 9266

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Qian, C.X.

Atty. Docket: 1556.0290000/RWE/JKM

**Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 and 1.121**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the non-final Office Action dated June 17, 2003 (Paper No. 11), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all the claims:
  - in ascending order;
  - with status identifiers; and
  - with markings in the currently amended claims; and
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this

RECEIVED  
AUG 29 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.